

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA
BOARD OF EDUCATION
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

May 28, 1998

MINUTES

The Board of Education and the Board of Vocational Education met for its regular business meeting in Senate Room B of the General Assembly Building, Richmond, Virginia on Thursday, May 28, 1998 with the following members present:

Mr. Kirk T. Schroder, President	Senator John W. Russell
Senator J. Brandon Bell, Vice President	Mrs. Lil Tuttle
Mrs. Jennifer C. Byler	
Mr. Mark C. Christie	Mr. Paul D. Stapleton, Secretary and
Mrs. Susan Noble	Superintendent of Public Instruction

Mr. Schroder, president, presided and called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Senator Russell gave the invocation and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mrs. Tuttle noted a correction to be made on page 48 in the first paragraph of the April 22-23 minutes. Mrs. Byler made a motion for approval of the minutes of the April 22-23 meeting. The motion was seconded by Senator Russell. Copies of the minutes had been distributed previously to all members of the Board for review.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Schroder stated that the order of the agenda would be business first followed by reports. *Item L, Waiver of the Pre-Labor Day Opening for an Innovative Program Under '22.1-79.1B.3*, was moved to after *Item H* on the agenda.

The motion was made by Mrs. Byler, seconded by Mrs. Noble, and carried unanimously for approval of the agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

The motion was made by Mrs. Byler, seconded by Senator Russell, and carried unanimously for approval of the consent agenda.

- # Final Review of Recommendations Concerning Applications for Literary Fund Loans
- # Final Review of Recommendations Concerning Release of Literary Fund Loans for Placement on Waiting List
- # Final Review of Financial Report on Literary Fund

Final Review of Recommendations Concerning Applications for Literary Fund Loans

The Department of Education's recommendation for approval of two new applications in the amount of \$1,670,000 and four supplemental applications in the amount of \$341,144 subject to final approval by the office of the Attorney General.

COUNTY, CITY, OR TOWN	SCHOOL	AMOUNT
Smyth County	Marian Intermediate	170,000.00
Bedford County	Bedford Middle	1,500,000.00
Russell County	Lebanon Elementary	85,674.00
Russell County	Swords Creek Elementary	90,153.00
Russell County	Castlewood Elementary	70,317.00
Nottoway County	Burkeville Elementary	95,000.00
	TOTAL	\$2,011,144.00

Final Review of Recommendations Concerning Release of Literary Fund Loans for Placement on Waiting List

The Department of Education's recommendation is that the two projects for Accomack County be moved to the top of the waiting list and be funded this month. This action corrects an error that occurred in their placement on the Priority Waiting List.

A letter was received from Mr. Thomas Malcolm, Superintendent of Schools for Frederick County asking that the two projects for Frederick County be removed from the Second Priority Waiting List. As a result, it is recommended that these projects be removed from the Second Priority Waiting List and that the applications be withdrawn from

consideration.

The Department of Education also recommended that funds be released for five projects in the amount of \$5,807,451 and that one project in the amount of \$1,500,000 be deferred and the project be placed on the First Priority Waiting List.

COUNTY, CITY, OR TOWN	SCHOOL	AMOUNT
Smyth County	Marian Intermediate	170,000.00
Accomack County	North Accomack	956,226.00
Accomack County	South Accomack	956,225.00
Hanover County	Chickahominy Middle	1,850,000.00
Hanover County	Battlefield Park Elementary	1,875,000.00
	TOTAL	\$5,807,451.00

FIRST PRIORITY WAITING LIST

COUNTY, CITY, OR TOWN	SCHOOL	AMOUNT
Bedford County	Bedford Middle	1,500,000.00
	TOTAL	\$1,500,000.00

Final Review of Financial Report on the Literary Fund

The Department of Education's recommendation for approval of the financial report on the status of the Literary Fund as of March 31, 1998, was accepted by the Board of Education's vote on the consent agenda.

HIGHLIGHT ON STUDENTS

The Board of Education and the public were entertained by the C. D. Hylton High School Drama Department, AThe Quilters,@ of Prince William County Public Schools. Dr. Edward Kelly, Superintendent of Prince William County Public Schools introduced the group and their drama teacher, Ms. Julie Clark.

RECOGNITIONS

Former Board members, Michelle Easton, Lee Ware, Rayford Harris, and Cheri Yecke were recognized by the Board of Education for their service on the Board. They were presented with a Resolution of Appreciation and a gift. Due to prior commitments, Ms. Easton and Mr. Ware were unable to attend.

Mr. B. Philip Bigler, 1998 Virginia Teacher of the Year and 1998 National Teacher of the Year was recognized by the Board of Education. Mr. Bigler was presented with a Resolution of Appreciation.

Christina Yeajung Park, a fourth grade gifted student at Ginter Park Elementary School in Richmond City, was recognized by the Board. Christina won the spelling contest at her school and the city-wide spelling contest. From there she entered the regional contest and won third place. The Board presented Christina with a Resolution of Recognition. Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Park, Dr. Albert J. Williams, Superintendent of Richmond City Public Schools and Mrs. Shirley J. Logan, Principal of Ginter Park Elementary were also in attendance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The following persons spoke during the public comment period:

Dr. Judy Engelhardt	Inger Horowitz
Dr. Karen Rooney	Nancy Finch
Keith Brown	Cindy Byrum
Terry Phillips	

Final Review of a Proposal to Revise the Licensure Requirements in the Special Education Areas of Learning Disabilities K-12 (LD); Mental Retardation K-12 (MR); Emotional Disturbance K-12 (ED); and Severe Disabilities K-12

Dr. Thomas Elliott presented this item. The Superintendent's recommendation is (1) for the Board of Education to approve the proposed licensure regulations in the special education areas of emotional disturbance, learning disabilities, mental retardation, and severe disabilities and (2) the Board of Education licensure regulations in these special education areas will become effective for local school divisions on July 1, 1998 and for teacher education approved programs in the fall of 2000. (These effective dates are consistent with the dates approved for the other newly-revised licensure regulations by the Board of Education on January 8, 1998.)

Mrs. Susan Noble made a motion to revise the licensure requirements for Special Education in the area of Learning Disabilities and to adopt the proposal from the Task Force. Mrs. Noble amended the motion to also include a wording change in the Acore competencies. In Section A.5.d., the following recommendation was made, Ad. Are based

on functional assessment of behavior.® The motion was seconded by Mrs. Byler and carried unanimously.

First Review of a Recommendation to Discontinue the 18-Hour Cap in Professional Studies (Methods of Teaching Courses) Required in Teacher Education Programs

Dr. Thomas Elliott presented this item. The Superintendent-s recommendation is for the Board of Education (1) to discontinue the 18-hour cap on professional studies, effective in the fall 2000 when approved teacher education programs must be aligned with the new licensure regulations and (2) to continue the requirement for any arts or science-s degree for prospective teachers.

The motion to waive first review was made by Mr. Christie. Senator Russell seconded the motion and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Noble made a motion to raise the 18-hour cap to twenty-four hours across the board for professional studies and teacher education. The motion was seconded by Senator Russell and carried unanimously.

First Review of Appointments to the Proprietary Schools Advisory Committee

The Proprietary Schools Advisory Committee is established by Section 22.1-322 of the *Code of Virginia* which allows the Board of Education to appoint as many advisory committees as it may deem necessary. This committee is composed of nine members, two positions of which are currently vacant. One position should be filled by an individual associated with the career school industry and the other a representative from the general public.

Richard Layman presented this item. The Superintendent-s recommendation is (1) That the Board of Education review the profiles of the nominations received and appoint two members to the Proprietary Schools Advisory Committee to serve two-year terms effective July 1, 1998 to June 30, 2000. One position should represent the career school industry and the other appointment should be from the general public. (2) That the Board of Education waive the requirement for a second review and make all appointments effective as of the May 1998 meeting.

Mrs. Byler made a motion to waive first review. The motion was seconded by Mr. Christie and carried unanimously.

Mr. Christie made a motion to adopt the superintendent-s recommendation to appoint

Yvonne de Vilar from the general public and Cindy L. Hutcheson from the career school sector and to reappoint the present five members: Clete Mehringer, Katherine C. Embrey, Dennis McCloskey, Sherrye A. Ward, and Ben Berryman. The motion was seconded by Senator Russell and carried unanimously.

First Review of Procedures for Requesting Waivers to the Accreditation Standards

Mr. Charles Finley reviewed conditions placed on local school divisions to apply for approval by the Board of Education for waivers. A draft of an application to be used by local school divisions to request waivers was also presented.

A discussion followed on the definition of experimental and innovative programs. As requested by Mr. Schroder, Mr. Finley described an experimental program as one of short duration with specific objectives to it that may lead to something more permanent.

Mrs. Tuttle's stated that her definition of an experimental program is: A program operated under controlled circumstances designed to test and establish by objective measures the cognitive effect of an educational theory. Mrs. Tuttle stated that she would like to discontinue calling programs experimental and innovative.

Mr. Schroder suggested that Mr. Finley get a copy of Mrs. Tuttle's definition as one option to work with in describing experimental and innovative and have a baseline definition at the next board meeting.

Mrs. Tuttle suggested that another form from school divisions should follow-up the *Request for Waiver of Certain Accrediting Standards* application to include specific information.

The Board received the report for first review.

First Review of the Comprehensive School Reform Demonstration Program

The Comprehensive School Reform Demonstration Program authorizes the State Education Agency (SEA) to submit an application to the U. S. Department of Education for the approval of federal funds. The Comprehensive School Reform Demonstration Program provides school grants of at least \$50,000 to implement research-based reform models. Grants are renewable for two additional years.

Dr. Jo Lynne DeMary stated that Virginia's total allocation is \$2,401,808. Schools must submit an application to the SEA by October 30, 1998 to receive the first year of funding.

The Superintendent's recommendation is to approve the State Education Agency's Comprehensive School Reform Demonstration Program application for submission to the U.

S. Department of Education.

The motion to waive first review was made by senator Russell. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Byler and carried unanimously.

Mrs. Byler made a motion to adopt the superintendent's recommendation. The motion was seconded by Senator Russell and carried unanimously.

Waiver of the Pre-Labor Day Opening for and Innovative Program Under ' 22.1-79.1B.3

Mr. Schroder abstained from this issue because his law firm has provided legal counsel to the Virginia Hospitality and Travel Association. Mr. Christie abstained for similar reasons. Mr. Schroder handed the gavel to Senator Bell, and Senator Bell presided on this issue.

Mrs. Tuttle made a motion to waive first review. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Noble and carried unanimously.

The Superintendent's recommendation is to: (1) *Buena Vista Public Schools* - grant the waiver of the pre-labor day requirement for the 1998-99 school year, as permitted by ' 22.1-79.1B.3, for all the schools in the division because all four schools (Enderly Heights Elementary School, F. W. King, Jr., Elementary School, Parry McCluer Middle School, Parry McCluer High School) will be implementing a year-round program. (2) *Danville City Public Schools* - grant the waiver of the pre-labor day requirement for the 1998-99 school year, as permitted by ' 22.1-79.1B.3., for the three schools (E. A. Gibson Middle School, I. W. Taylor Elementary School, and Schoolfield Elementary School) in the division that will be implementing a year-round program.

Mrs. Tuttle made a motion to accept the request as submitted by Buena Vista and Danville City Public Schools requesting a waiver of the pre-labor day requirement because they will be implementing a year-round educational program in their schools. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Byler and carried unanimously.

Sixteenth Annual Report from the State Advisory Committee for the Education of the Gifted

The report was presented by Linda Rae, Chairperson, State Advisory Committee and Joy Baytops, Specialist, Gifted Education, Department of Education.

During 1998-99, the Virginia Advisory Committee for the Education of the Gifted will continue its mission of providing guidance to the State Board of Education in the

Commonwealth. Subcommittees will establish work agendas that will direct their progress in: (a) identifying unmet needs of gifted students, and (b) advising and assisting the Department and Board in the development and promotion of services, policies, and procedures that enhance learning opportunities available for gifted learners in Virginia with the goal of maximizing their educational opportunities. The Board received the report.

Report on the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) Reading Conference

The Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) held a reading conference in Atlanta, Georgia on May 13-14, 1998. Mrs. Tuttle attended the conference and reported on reading initiatives that promote early reading success in children. Dr. Jim Heywood and Mrs. Linda Poorbaugh, Department of Education staff also attended the conference.

Mrs. Tuttle stated that although our Early Reading Initiative is a good first step, it is clear that Virginia can and should do much more to promote early literacy throughout the Commonwealth and to support local school districts in their efforts to strengthen reading instruction and improve reading achievement.

Dr. Heywood and Mrs. Poorbaugh have requested several documents from conference presenters and a hardcopy of the National Research Council's extensive report. With the Superintendent and Board's permission, Mrs. Tuttle would like to work with the staff, after they receive this material, to develop a more detailed written report that would include specific policy recommendations for the Board's consideration.

Legislative Update on the 1998 Legislative Session

Diane Atkinson reviewed a draft copy of the responsibilities of the Board of Education from the 1998 legislative session.

The Board of Education responsibilities include the following:

- # Seals on High School Diplomas
- # Virginia Educational Excellence Incentive Reward Program
- # Instruction for the Blind and Visually Impaired
- # Driver Education Programs
- # Literary Fund Loans
- # School Nurse Incentive Grants Program and Fund
- # Gifted Education
- # Educational Planning
- # Student Expulsion and Searches and Guidelines for

- Student Searches
- # Principles of the Flag
 - # Labor Day Opening of School
 - # Physical Examination of School Bus Drivers
 - # Money Management
 - # Study: One-year Internship for Teachers
 - # Educational Infrastructure
 - # Governor's School for Agriculture
 - # School Board Employee Leave Policies
 - # Noncustodial Parent Involvement
 - # Guidelines: Alternative Education
 - # Study: Student Career Planning

Mrs. Byler requested a copy of HB 1343.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mr. Schroder adjourned the meeting of the Virginia Board of Education and the Board of Vocational Education at 12:30 p.m.

President

Secretary of the Board